

A2  
1 (Amended). A method comprising:

detecting the coupling of a power sink to a power source;  
automatically requesting a power class indication from the sink; and  
using said power class indication to determine whether to supply power to said  
sink.

✓ Please cancel claims 4 and 5.

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

A3  
11 (Amended). An article comprising a medium storing instructions that enable a  
processor-based system to:  
detect the coupling of a power sink to a power source;  
request a power class indication from the power sink; and  
determine whether the available power on said source is sufficient to supply the  
power needs of said power sink.

Please amend claim 21 as follows:

A4  
21 (Amended). A system comprising:  
a connection to a source of power;  
a plurality of ports to couple said system to power consuming devices; and  
a processor-based device which analyzes power class information received from  
power consuming devices and automatically determines whether to supply power to said power  
consuming devices through said ports.

Please amend claim 24 as follows:

A5  
24 (Amended). The system of claim 21 wherein said processor-based device determines  
whether to provide power to a power consuming device that is connected to said system.

Please amend claim 26 as follows:

A6  
26 (Amended). A system comprising:  
power consuming circuitry;